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# Last time: Limits

A function  $f$  has  $\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{a}} f(\vec{x}) = L$  iff. for all cont. space curves,  $\vec{r}(t)$  with  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \vec{r}(t) = \vec{a}$ .

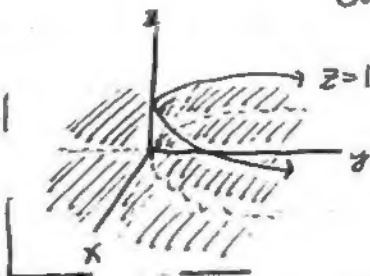
• Limit from direction of curve  $L$

\* To show limit is DNE, find  $\vec{r}_0(t)$  and  $\vec{r}_1(t)$  with  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \vec{r}_2(t) = \vec{a}$  and show  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} f(\vec{r}_0(t)) \neq \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} f(\vec{r}_1(t))$

Use lines  $\ell_{a,b}(t) = \vec{a} + t\langle a, b \rangle$

These lines DONT suffice showing ~~if~~ if a limit ~~is~~ exists.

$$\text{Let } f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y=x^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Limiting  $\vec{a} = \vec{0}$  along the line  $\ell_{a,b}(t)$ , notice

$$f(\ell_{a,b}(t)) = f(at, bt) = 0 \text{ for all } t > 0$$

~~at~~  $(at)^2 = bt$  has at most 2 solutions

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} f(\ell_{a,b}(t)) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} 0 = 0$$

$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2 \rangle$ , we see:  $f(\vec{r}(t)) = f(t, t^2) = 1$  for all  $t$ .

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} f(\vec{r}(t)) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} 1 = 1$$

\* As  $1 \neq 0$ ,  $\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{0}} f(\vec{x})$  DNE

by curves criterion

Q: How do we show a limit exists?

TRICK: Use polar coordinates (doesn't always work)

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Limits cont...

Ex: Does  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x^2+y^2)}{x^2+y^2}$  exist? (yes, w/ how)

1. Convert to Polar Coordinates  $\begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \end{cases}$

$(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$  iff.  $r \rightarrow 0^+$

Polar coordinates use pos. radius, so we approach  $0^+$ .

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\sin(x^2+y^2)}{x^2+y^2} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin((r \cos \theta)^2 + (r \sin \theta)^2)}{(r \cos \theta)^2 + (r \sin \theta)^2}$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin(r^2(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta))}{r^2(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin(r^2)}{r^2} \quad * \frac{0}{0} \text{ type}$$

[H]

$$\uparrow [\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1]$$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{2r \cos(r^2)}{2r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \cos(r^2) = \cos(0^2) = \cos(0) = 1 \quad \square$$

Ex: Does  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2-y^2}{x^2+y^2}$  exist? (Polar coordinate trace)

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2-y^2}{x^2+y^2} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{(r \cos \theta)^2 - (r \sin \theta)^2}{(r \cos \theta)^2 + (r \sin \theta)^2} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{r^2(\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta)}{r^2(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)}$$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \cos(2\theta) = \cos(2\theta) \quad * (\text{depending on } r, \text{ not } \theta) *$$

Approaching  $\theta = \pi/2$ , expect  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y) = \cos(2 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}) = -1$

Approaching  $\theta = 0$ , expect  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y) = \cos(0) = 1$

$\therefore$  Limit does not exist by Curves criterion □

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Limits Cont...

## Continuity

- Function  $f$  is continuous @  $\vec{a} \in \text{dom}(f)$  when  $\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{a}} f(\vec{x}) = f(\vec{a})$ 
  - $f$  is continuous @ set  $D$  when  $f$  is continuous @ every  $\vec{a} \in D$

Ex: Every Polynomial is cont. everywhere.

Ex: Every rational function is cont. on its domain.

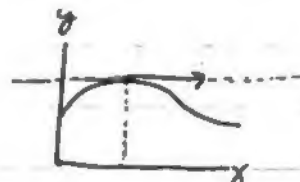
Ex:  $f(x,y) = \frac{\sin(x^2+y^2)}{x^2+y^2}$  is cont. everywhere except (0,0).

Cont. everywhere:  $g(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin(x^2+y^2)}{x^2+y^2} & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 1 & \text{if } (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$

NB: The "usual" rules for continuity from Calculus I still apply

## Derivatives of Multivariable Functions

Idea: Derivative measures how function changes with small changes in input. \* In a given direction. \*



Defn: Directional derivative of function  $f$  of  $n$  variables

@  $\vec{a} \in \text{dom}(f)$  in the direction of unit vector  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is:

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{a}) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + h\vec{u}) - f(\vec{a})}{h}$$

Ex: Compute  $D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{a})$  for  $f(x,y) = x\sqrt{y}$  @  $\vec{a} = (2,4)$

In direction  $\vec{v} = \langle 2, -1 \rangle$ .

$$\vec{u} = \frac{1}{|\vec{v}|} \vec{v} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \langle 2, -1 \rangle = \left\langle \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \right\rangle$$

y

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Limits cont...

Ex cont...

$$D_0 f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(2 + \frac{2}{15}h, 4 - \frac{1}{15}h) - f(2, 4)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{(2 + \frac{2}{15}h) \sqrt{4 - \frac{1}{15}h} - 2 \cdot \sqrt{4}}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{(2 + \frac{2}{15}h) \sqrt{4 - \frac{1}{15}h} - 4}{h} \cdot \frac{-(2 + \frac{2}{15}h) \sqrt{4 - \frac{1}{15}h} - 4}{-(2 + \frac{2}{15}h) \sqrt{4 - \frac{1}{15}h} - 4}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-(2 + \frac{2}{15}h)^2 (4 - \frac{1}{15}h) + 16}{-h(4(2 + \frac{2}{15}h) \sqrt{4 - \frac{1}{15}h})} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-(4 \cdot \frac{8}{15}h \cdot \frac{4}{5}h^2)(4 - \frac{1}{15}h) + 16}{\boxed{-8\sqrt{5}}}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-(16 - \frac{4}{15}h + \frac{32}{15}h - \frac{8}{5}h^2 + \frac{16}{5}h^2 - \frac{4}{515}h^3) + 16}{\boxed{-8\sqrt{5}}}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h(-\frac{28}{15} - \frac{8}{15}h + \frac{4}{515}h^2)}{-8\sqrt{5}} = \frac{-\frac{28}{15} - 0 + 0^2}{-8\sqrt{5}} = \frac{7}{2\sqrt{5}} \quad \boxed{\frac{7}{2\sqrt{5}}}$$